

DEBBIE LESKO. If you spend some time with DEBBIE, take her to dinner. I am not going to share it here, but just have her tell you her story of growing up. There is no stronger woman than DEBBIE LESKO.

Her amendment would prohibit funds from going to entities tied to the Chinese Communist Party. Come on. Seriously? I am serious. This is an amendment that was rejected. I should have started with this one from the very beginning. That has to get five votes to say “no.” It has just got to.

Seriously, if you vote for this bill, there is nothing that prohibits it for the Chinese Communist Party. Let me tell you this. When you spend \$5 trillion, that party is going to be celebrating. Unbelievable. Unbelievable.

I want to apologize to the staff. You do a great job. I owe you another dinner. We might make her pay if I win the bet. You are working late. You didn't count on this. Personally, I didn't think I could go this long.

Madam Speaker, my 1 minute is almost up. Madam Speaker and Parliamentarian, is there any way that you can verify—I guess you can't say that because that would be past a minute. How far over? I can still tell some family stories.

No. I will not yield. I am not trying to be rude. You are trying to trick me. I watched “Mr. Smith Goes to Washington.” I just need the Boy Scouts. It is important.

I am a competitive guy. I am a competitive guy.

Madam Speaker, this 1 minute feels almost like 8 hours now. I want to thank my colleagues for standing with me, for standing with their constituents, as we do everything in our power to stop this bill.

I hope the American public learned a little more. I hope my colleagues did, too. While it has been a long night for many of us who have been on this floor, my Democratic colleagues chose to handle this debate differently.

There have been good moments and bad. I just never thought power would go so far as to tell another Member where they can look. Maybe he was having a bad night.

I want to thank my colleagues on the other side for being here. I have enjoyed your company. I probably owe you dinner, too. Will you get in trouble if you have dinner with me? We don't have to tell people. You can pick the restaurant.

Democrats were so unnerved with the truth behind this bill they booed, they yelled, they heckled, they even mocked me. Quite honestly, it was shameful behavior. It was shameful. I am not sure, but if it was on the other side, they probably would have lost their committees.

Not long after that, Speaker PELOSI heard enough of how this bill will hurt hardworking Americans. She came to this floor and directed her Members to leave. Why are we afraid of debate? Why are we afraid to learn? I imagine there are Members—they are not on all the same committees. They didn't know they were funding the Communist Party. They didn't know they were paying for millionaires' plumbing. They may change their votes.

Maybe that is why the CBO says it costs so much. Could you only imagine some senior paying a lot for their heating, but choosing not to, and some millionaire getting their plumbing paid for. It just doesn't seem fair to me. It just doesn't seem fair.

She decided it wasn't worth their time to hear how their fellow Americans would be affected by this bill. That is exactly what the Democrats don't understand. It is not about them. It is about you, the American people.

This is the longest 1 minute I have ever given. It is the longest 1 minute ever given in this body. There is a reason why. This is a tipping point. This is a point of not coming back from. The American people have spoken, but unfortunately, Madam Speaker, the Democrats have not listened.

I tried to stick to the facts. I did not yell back when someone told me I couldn't look at them or when they heckled me. I simply asked the Speaker that the House was not in order. I don't know if he set a record this night, but I imagine it came close, to try to get the House in order.

There have been times in people's lives when they act emotionally, when they don't want to hear the truth coming at them. I don't know if that is the reason why they acted the way they did; it could be.

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I don't believe there is ill will. I won't bring a censure. I am not sure if they will be back here next time.

Madam Speaker, this evening showed that no matter the time, the day, or the circumstances, House Republicans

will always fight for you, fight for your family, and fight our country.

The SPEAKER pro tempore (Ms. JACOBS of California). Pursuant to clause 1(c) of rule XIX, further consideration of H.R. 5376 is postponed.

#### ENROLLED BILL SIGNED

Cheryl L. Johnson, Clerk of the House, reported and found truly enrolled a bill of the House of the following title, which was thereupon signed by the Speaker:

H.R. 5142. An act to award posthumously a Congressional Gold Medal, in commemoration to the servicemembers who perished in Afghanistan on August 26, 2021, during the evacuation of citizens of the United States and Afghan allies at Hamid Karzai International Airport, and for other purposes.

#### SENATE ENROLLED BILLS SIGNED

The Speaker announced her signature to enrolled bills of the Senate of the following titles:

S. 796.—An Act to codify maternity care coordination programs at the Department of Veterans Affairs, and for other purposes.

S. 894.—An Act to identify and refer members of the Armed Forces with a health care occupation who are separating from the Armed Forces for potential employment with the Department of Veterans Affairs, and for other purposes.

S. 1031.—An Act to require the Comptroller General of the United States to conduct a study on disparities associated with race and ethnicity with respect to certain benefits administered by the Secretary of Veterans Affairs, and for other purposes.

S. 1095.—An Act to amend title 38, United States Code, to provide for the disapproval by the Secretary of Veterans Affairs of courses of education offered by public institutions of higher learning that do not charge veterans the in-State tuition rate for purposes of Survivors' and Dependents' Educational Assistance Program, and for other purposes.

#### ADJOURNMENT

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Pursuant to section 11(b) of House Resolution 188, the House stands adjourned until 8 a.m. today.

Thereupon (at 5 o'clock and 11 minutes a.m.), under its previous order, the House adjourned until today, Friday, November 19, 2021, at 8 a.m.